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(*b*) whether representations have been made to him during his visit to the district to extend the benefit of this system to the rest of the taluks also; and

(*c*) what action Government have taken in this matter?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The question of extending the experimental scheme of free distribution of quinine to the other taluks in the district is under consideration.

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" May I know if Government have got a sufficient supply of quinine and whether there is any other difficulty in extending the free supply of quinine to the rest of the taluks also? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—" It is not a question of Government not having a sufficient supply of quinine. The question is the cost of free distribution of the substance."

Water-supply scheme of the Tuticorin Municipality.

* 510 *Q.*—Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Tuticorin Municipality has been collecting a heavy tax from the year 1915 for a protected scheme of water-supply to the town;

(*b*) whether the works pertaining to the scheme finally sanctioned by the Government in 1926 are still pending completion;

(*c*) whether the Government have investigated into the delay in the execution of the works and what steps have been or are proposed to be taken to complete the works without further delay; and

(*d*) when the Government expect the works to be completed and handed over to the municipality?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 529.

Agriculture

Correspondence with the Secretary of State for sanction to appoint an I.C.S. officer as Director of Agriculture.

* 511 *Q.*—Mr. V. T. Arasu: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have addressed the Central Government and the Secretary of State for India for permission to appoint a civilian as permanent Director of Agriculture; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons that impelled the Government to overlook the claims of the men in the Agricultural department?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The question of a permanent successor to Mr. Hilson is still under the consideration of Government.